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The Steward

Newsletter of Alberta's Natural and Protected Areas and the People Who Care for Them

Issue 22

April 1993

Naturally Yours

Volunteer Steward Conference Fast Approaching!

Start digging up those note pads, hiking boots and binoculars, the Second Volunteer Steward Conference will be here sooner than you think!

From June 4 - 6, 1993, Volunteer Stewards from around the province will converge at the Rocky Mountain YMCA for a weekend of information, knowledge but most of all...FUN!!

Held only once every three years, the conference is a wonderful opportunity for stewards to learn more about ecology and acquire field identification skills through outdoor field trips and indoor study sessions. The conference program will feature four main themes: field identification skills, ecological understanding, working with people and site management techniques.

Along with a wine and cheese party, Ben Gadd, naturalist and author of "Handbook of the Canadian Rockies," will kick off the conference on Friday with a session entitled "Grizzly Bears Need Somewhere to Live Too". Throughout the weekend, other specialists will cover topics ranging from Wetland Ecology to Research Projects Applicable to Natural Areas. With a total of 26 sessions and 43 influential speakers, stewards should come away from the conference feeling thoroughly informed and enthused.

When not attending the scheduled speaker sessions, you will be able to witness spring bloom in the Rockies while birdwatching and nature walking around the scenic Rocky Mountain YMCA site and nearby Natural Areas.

Rocky Mountain YMCA... nestled among 1,000 acres of forests and trails in the foothills of the Rockies 80 km west of Calgary.

This conference is a fascinating opportunity for you to network, learn, explore and socialize. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you have not received a conference brochure and are interested in attending, please contact:

Natural and Protected Areas
4th floor, 9915 - 108 St.
Edmonton, AB
T5K 2C9
Phone: 427-5209
Fax: 422-4244

Alberta Mammals: An Atlas and Guide

The Provincial Museum of Alberta has announced the publication of the first comprehensive field guide to the mammals of Alberta to appear in almost 30 years. *Alberta Mammals: An Atlas and Guide* by Hugh C. Smith focuses on the distribution, habitat and key identifying features of each of Alberta's 91 species of native mammals.

Beautifully illustrated with 58 colour photographs, the book bridges the gap between field guide and reference text.

Distribution maps indicating known locality records and estimated ranges of each species within Alberta make this a true atlas.

Illustrated keys to the orders of Alberta mammals, and to species within each order, facilitate the straightforward identification of unknown species.

Alberta Mammals: An Atlas and Guide is designed for students, naturalists, mammal-watchers and biologists. This beautiful volume is hard bound in full colour and specially priced at $24.95.

If you would like more information, please contact:

The Provincial Museum Shop
12845 - 102 Avenue
Edmonton, AB
T5N 0M6
Phone: 453-9146

What is **COSEWIC**?

Most people in Canada who have an interest in conservation have probably come across "COSEWIC" at some point. But what does it stand for? What is it?

The acronym COSEWIC stands for the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. This committee is made up of federal, provincial and territorial wildlife officials and representatives from conservation organizations. It is the group that is developing a national endangered species list. The committee solicits reports on species that may be at risk in Canada, and based on those reports, adds species to the list under one of four categories: extinct, extirpated, endangered, threatened or vulnerable. This is just a list; it does not afford the listed species any legal protection. But the COSEWIC list is viewed with respect and listed species enjoy special consideration. *

After 13 years of work, 213 species have been placed on the COSEWIC list. Of these species, 38 are found (or were once found) in Alberta.

There is still a great deal of work to be done on Canada's rare species. In Alberta, the rare plant list totals around 400 species (this only includes vascular plants). Background reports have been compiled for only a small fraction of these plants, which enabled the species to be considered for listing by COSEWIC. In Canada, an estimated 8,643 species (Mosquin and McAllister as reported in Prescott and Aniskowicz) of plants, animals and micro-organisms are endangered or already lost.

Once a species is recognized as requiring special attention through the COSEWIC listing, there are a number of programs to follow up. Several provinces, although not Alberta, have endangered species acts, under which a species can be given legislative protection.

A program called "RENEW" (Recovery of Nationally Endangered Wildlife) was started in 1988 to bring government agencies, conservation groups and individuals together as "recovery teams" to develop recovery plans for some COSEWIC species. The RENEW program, however, only deals with birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles (no plants or insects, etc.). Recovery teams are not set up for species in the vulnerable category.

World Wildlife Fund Canada and Environment Canada have established the Endangered Species Recovery Fund, which is used to finance work towards the recovery of Canadian species. It is not limited to species covered by COSEWIC and RENEW.

*Reference: Prescott, J. and B.T. Aniskowicz, Helping endangered species: COSEWIC and RENEW. Is this the best that we can do? Canadian Biodiversity 2(1): 23-30.

COSEWIC Species in Alberta

Mammals

Extirpated
- Black-footed Ferret
- Grizzly Bear - Plains Pop.
- Swift Fox

Threatened
- Prairie Long-tailed Weasel
- Wood Bison

Vulnerable
- Black-tailed Prairie Dog
- Gray Fox
- Grizzly Bear - All Other Pops.
- Wolverine
- Woodland Caribou

Birds

Extinct
- Passenger Pigeon

Extirpated
- Greater Prairie-Chicken

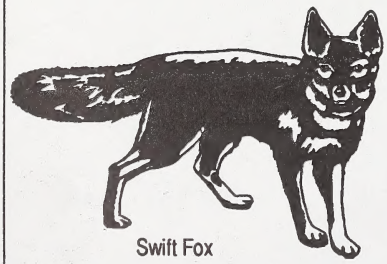
Endangered
- Mountain Plover
- Peregrine Falcon
- Piping Plover
- Sage Thrasher
- Whooping Crane

Threatened
- Baird's Sparrow
- Burrowing Owl
- Ferruginous Hawk
- Loggerhead Shrike - Western Pop.

Vulnerable
- Caspian Tern
- Cooper's Hawk
- Eastern Bluebird
- Great Gray Owl
- Long-billed Curlew
- Trumpeter Swan

Uplisted
- Piping Plover (1985)

Delisted
- White Pelican (1987)



Swift Fox

Burrowing Owl

Whooping Crane

COSEWIC Definitions

Extinct: Any indigenous species of fauna or flora formerly indigenous to Canada and no longer known to exist elsewhere.

Extirpated: Any indigenous species of fauna or flora no longer known to exist in the wild in Canada but existing elsewhere.

Endangered: Any indigenous species of fauna or flora that is threatened with imminent extirpation or extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its Canadian range.

Threatened: Any indigenous species of fauna or flora that is likely to become endangered in Canada if the factors affecting its vulnerability are not reversed.

Vulnerable: Any indigenous species of flora or fauna that is particularly at risk because of low or declining numbers, occurrence at the fringe of its range or in restricted areas, or for some other reason but is not a threatened species.

Delisted: A species previously designated by COSEWIC whose national status is no longer one of the categories above. The American White Pelican was designated as threatened from 1976-87 but, as a result of the recovery of populations, was delisted in 1987.

Uplisted: A species previously designated from one category to a more vulnerable category.

Fish
- Extinct
  - Longnose Dace - Banff Pop.
- Threatened
  - Blackfin Cisco
  - Shortjaw Cisco

Reptiles and Amphibians
- Vulnerable
  - Eastern Short-horned Lizard

Plants
- Endangered
  - Slender Mouse-ear Cress
- Threatened
  - Sand Verbena
  - Western Blue Flag
  - Western Spiderwort
- Vulnerable
  - Prairie Rose
  - Smooth Goosefoot
  - Soapweed

Woodland Caribou

Western Blue Flag

Best Field Guide of '92!

The Plants of Northern British Columbia is a must for every Alberta naturalist.

By including botany specialists and local naturalists as authors, the field guide is both thorough and unique.

A special feature of the guide is the diversity of plant groups presented. Sections include the following: trees; shrubs; wildflowers by family; grasses, sedges and rushes; ferns, horsetails and clubmosses; and mosses and lichens.

Twenty-one excellent keys are provided to assist with the identification of confusing groups such as willows, grasses and *Ribes* (currants and gooseberries). The photographs are also very good, with supplementary sketches adding details of flowers or leaves.

The guide is a handy size for the field, with rounded page corners providing ease of handling. I did not have the opportunity to "test drive" this guide in BC, but found it very useful for the boreal area of western Alberta. Chris Czajkowski, a wilderness guide living in Nimpo Lake, BC, also reviewed this book for the fall 1992 issue of "Wildflower" (Canadian Wildflower Society) and called it "superb, for the high dry plateau country of north and central BC."

We now need a "Plants of Northern Alberta" in the same format, to include our Canadian Shield treasures from the northeast corner of the province (e.g., stemless ladyslipper, *Cypripedium acaule*). Will prospective authors please step forward?

Reviewed by: Elisabeth Beaubien, November, 1992 (President ANPC: coordinator Alberta Wildflower Phenology Survey, Devonian Botanic Garden, University of Alberta, Edmonton T6G 2E1).

Editors: A. MacKinnon, K. Pojar, R. Coupé. 1992. BC Ministry of Forests and Lone Pine Publishing. 352 pp. $20.

Management Plan for Mule Deer in Alberta

The Management Plan for Mule Deer in Alberta is the first in a series of such plans formed by the Fish and Wildlife Division of Environmental Protection.

Released in November 1989, the plan gives an historical overview of mule deer in Alberta, including past populations and factors in habitat loss, and outlines current management issues as well as the management goals and objectives of Fish and Wildlife.

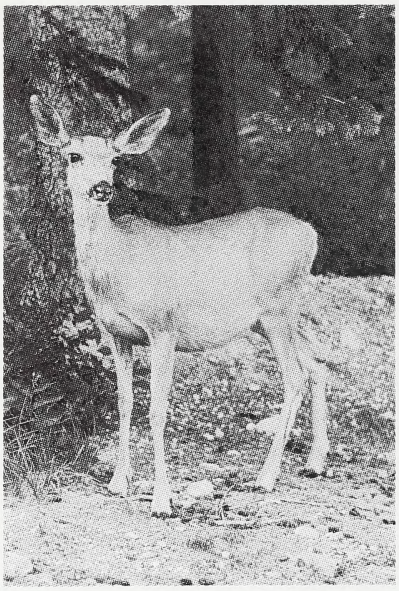
According to the report, mule deer populations declined to very low levels in the late 1800s because of high hunter harvests combined with habitat loss and a series of very severe winters. The numbers recovered in the 1900s but have fluctuated as populations have responded to changes in habitat and variations in winter weather.

The mule deer population peaked in the 1950s (with estimates of numbers greater than 150,000) then declined in the 1960s and early 1970s (estimates of fewer than 60,000) as a result of several severe winters and a liberal harvest regime.

In recent years, the population has remained fairly stable (1985 estimate of 86,000) under a conservative harvest regime and a series of successive mild winters.

One of the objectives of this management plan is to secure a provincial mule deer population of 97,000 by the year 1996 in order to satisfy identified public use goals. These goals include hunting, nonconsumptive recreation activities like photography, and enhanced knowledge and personal contact through viewing guides and interpretive sites.

The Fish and Wildlife division plans to increase the mule deer population by a number of means. These include habitat protection, improved population monitoring, limited entry draws for hunters, and promotion of the above-mentioned nonconsumptive activities.



The management report states that the major value of mule deer stems from the thousands of days of recreation they provide for both hunters and nonconsumptive users. Between 1950 and 1986, annual licence sales increased from under 15,000 to over 60,000. One study cited in the plan indicated that more than 80 per cent of Canadians are involved in wildlife-related activities, and deer are among the species people most like to see.

The report also outlines management issues and goals and objectives of the Mule Deer Management Plan. Other plans in the Fish and Wildlife series relate to grizzly bears, pronghorn antelope, wolves and cougars. Plans for black bear, elk, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat and white-tailed deer are currently being prepared. To obtain The Management Plan for Mule Deer or other reports in the series, contact the Information Centre, Alberta Energy/Environmental Protection, Main Floor, Bramalea Building, 9920 - 108 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 2M4, or phone 427-3590. In Calgary, contact the Information Centre at 297-6324.

Trees for Windbreaks

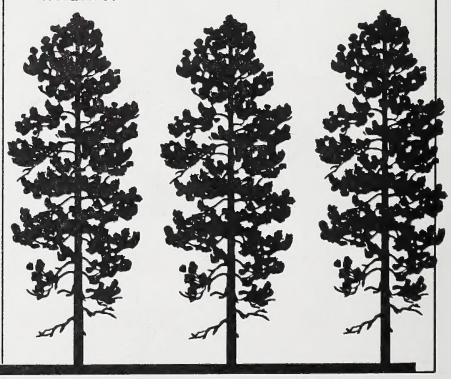
Warm, balmy spring is just around the corner, but don't forget how icy winds seemed to gust right into the most comfy rooms in your home this winter. And remember how dangerous driving became when snowdrifts reduced all visibility on that open stretch of road between home and town.

Both of these problems can be reduced in future winters by planting windbreak or shelterbelt trees this spring. Select softwoods (native pine and spruce)that are suitable to the soil and climate conditions of your area and plant trees in rows to shield the building, stretch of road or property you want to protect. Trees should be planted on the side(s) of the building struck by wind (usually the northwest).

For maximum effect, plant young trees densely and thin them out as they mature and become fuller.

Windbreaks/Shelterbelts can:

- Shield buildings from cold winds, saving energy and money;
- Redirect blowing wind and/or snow away from buildings and property;
- Absorb carbon dioxide, the leading greenhouse gas, during the growing season;
- Create winter landmarks;
- Prevent soil erosion;
- Conserve groundwater;
- Create habitat and food supply for wildlife.



Biodiversity

by Joyce Gould and Peter Lee, Natural and Protected Areas

The term "biodiversity" is one of the latest buzz words being tossed around through the print and electronic media, but what does it really mean?

Biodiversity is really a short form for biological or biotic diversity. It is technically defined as, "the structured and functional variety of life forms at genetic, population, species, community and ecosystem levels." It sounds simple enough, but why all the attention?

The Importance of Biodiversity

The essence of the biodiversity message from the experts is an urgent warning that even though species "naturally" go extinct and ecosystems "naturally" change (as part of the evolutionary process), the rates of extinction and ecosystem change that have occurred during the last 65 million years (since the dinosaurs' age) are small in comparison to the escalating rates predicted for the coming decades. The experts also predict this escalation will have enormous negative impacts on our earth and on the human species.

The role of any one species in the ecosystem is complex and poorly understood. Several species may perform the same ecological function (i.e., primary producer) but one species may be better suited to perform that function under different environmental conditions. The loss of one species from an ecosystem will not necessarily lead to the collapse of that ecosystem. However, certain species are "keystone" species. That is, they influence the survival of several other species. These species are critical to the functioning of the ecosystem. The problem is, we do not know which species are keystone. Thus, all species should be considered critical in the functioning of the ecosystem until such time as their absence has been determined. This can be done only through long-term observation and experimentation and through a complete understanding of the functioning of the ecosystem.

The diversity of a species' genetic composition dictates how the species interacts with its environment and how it responds to human-caused disturbances. Diversity is raw material for evolutionary change. Without the evolution of species, populations and ecosystems, the ability of future generations to survive is diminished. This ability is particularly important in light of human-induced changes such as climate change.

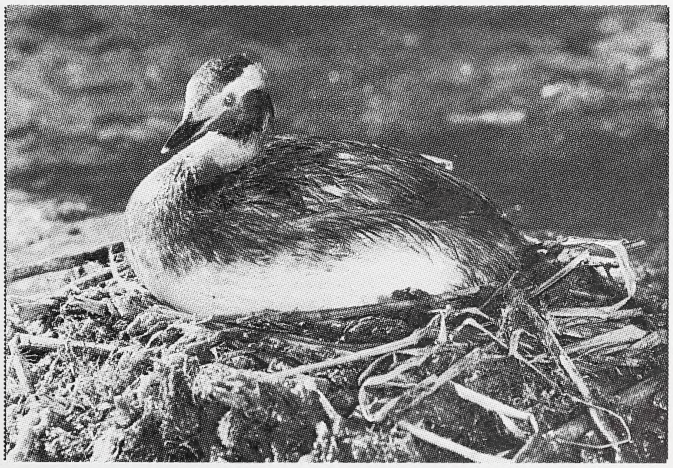
Ecosystems are dynamic systems--they experience wide variations in species composition over time (i.e., successional changes) yet function normally. It is important not to keep ecosystems at any one state, but to allow them to function normally over time.

Reasons for maintaining biodiversity have been summarized in *Looking Ahead: A Wildlife Strategy for Ontario* (p. 41) as:

- to keep all options open;
- to fulfill our obligation to future generations to pass on as complete a world as possible;
- to retain recognized and, as yet, undiscovered values and uses of wildlife;
- to protect unknown and hidden interconnections and dependencies which exist in ecosystems, especially with respect to maintaining the integrity of food-webs;
- to minimize the risk of destabilizing ecosystems through the loss of species of genetic diversity;
- to retain genetic diversity, and
- to preserve the capacity of all species to evolve.

Maintaining Biological Diversity

Habitat loss and degradation are the primary threats to the loss of biodiversity. To maintain biodiversity, adequate habitat must be ensured for all species and must be large enough for species to be able to sustain themselves indefinitely. A diversity of habitats and ecosystems must be preserved to ensure the long-term maintenance of species and genetic diversity.



Managing for Biological Diversity

Managing for biological diversity requires an ecosystem approach. However, our knowledge of ecosystem structure and function is incomplete, so we must first strive to collect pertinent information. The ecosystem approach will require ways of housing data and information, improving the monitoring of the effect upon ecosystems of management activities and other human-induced changes (i.e., climate change), and

"Biodiversity" continued on page 8

"Biodiversity" continued from page 7

ensuring there is an adequate representation of the various ecosystems found within protected areas in the province. The protection of rare, threatened and endangered species is also important in the maintenance of biodiversity.

The Biodiversity Convention was one of the major products that emerged from the June 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. This convention stressed the importance of conserving biodiversity in natural surroundings. It recommended that each jurisdiction "establish a system of protected areas to conserve biological diversity" and "develop guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of protected areas to conserve biological diversity."

The preservation of biodiversity is a real challenge. The basic premise for management should be to err on the side of caution. As stated by Aldo Leopold, "the basic rule of intelligent tinkering is to keep all the parts."

Natural and Protected Areas is preparing an information paper on biodiversity which will continue to outline our role in this important issue. If you are interested in contributing your thoughts to this paper or have ideas for topics to be covered, please call Joyce Gould at 427-5209.

Suggested Reading

Ontario Wildlife Working Group. 1991. Looking Ahead: A Wildlife Strategy for Ontario. Prepared for: The Minister of Natural Resources.

Rosey, M. 1992. Saving the Strands of Life: Alberta's Biodiversity. Edmonton: Environment Council of Alberta. ECA92-PA/CS-S18.

Wilson, E.O. (editor). 1988. Biodiversity. National Academy Press, Washington, D.C.

Wilson, E.O. 1992. Biodiversity. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Attention All Stewards!

Available now for your installation pleasure are wonderfully informative wildlife information signs.

The first 65 signs are ready for ordering and cover a wide range of flora and fauna. There are 31 signs for birds, 10 for mammals, 1 for reptiles, 5 for trees, 7 for shrubs and 11 for forbs. Fifty additional signs are currently in production, 40 of which will be ready in May.

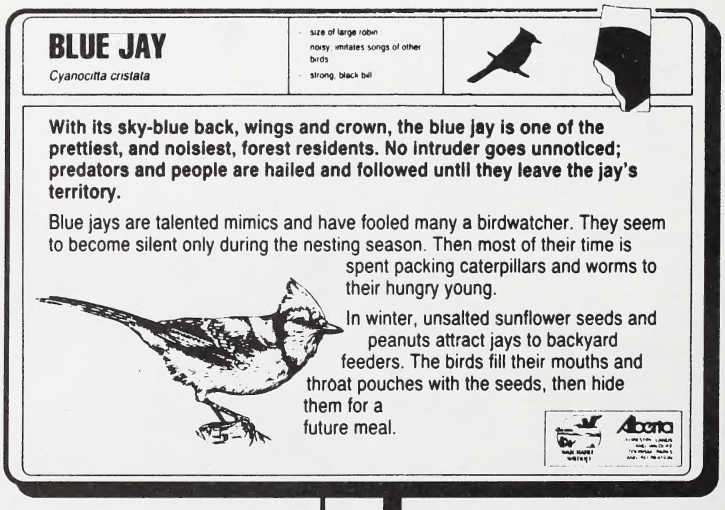
The signs, available to volunteer stewards and steward groups, are designed for placement along trails and at viewpoints in various Natural Areas where a particular wildlife species is likely to be seen.

Such signage is intended to increase public awareness and understanding of Alberta's diverse flora and fauna. It is expected that the signs will enhance the public's anticipation and enjoyment of seeing wildlife species, as well as increase public concern for, and involvement in, the protection of wildlife and their habitats.

The signs, made of a durable polyethylene plastic, are 25 cm by 36 cm and are produced in one colour (dark brown text and graphics on a light tan/beige background). A catalogue, available through Maps Alberta, provides photo-reduced paper samples of the 65 different signs currently for sale at a cost of $2 each.

If you would like specific information on the signs available and ordering procedures, please contact:

Maps Alberta
2nd Fl. North Tower Petroleum Plaza
9945 - 108 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2G6
Phone: (403) 427-3520.


BLUE JAY
Cyanocitta cristata
size of large robin
noisy, imitates songs of other birds
strong, black bill
With its sky-blue back, wings and crown, the blue jay is one of the prettiest, and noisiest, forest residents. No intruder goes unnoticed; predators and people are hailed and followed until they leave the jay's territory.
Blue jays are talented mimics and have fooled many a birdwatcher. They seem to become silent only during the nesting season. Then most of their time is spent packing caterpillars and worms to their hungry young.
In winter, unsalted sunflower seeds and peanuts attract jays to backyard feeders. The birds fill their mouths and throat pouches with the seeds, then hide them for a future meal.

Site Activities

December 1, 1992 - February 28, 1993

A regular feature to keep volunteer stewards and interested individuals informed of activities occuring on our sites.

Crow Lake ER (2): final draft management plan submitted to Ecological Reserves Coordinating Committee.

Sundance (52): seismic program proposed on adjacent land; no entry to natural area.

Thorsby (56): proposed seismic program rejected.

North Cooking Lake (62): complaints received about firearm discharges and off-road vehicles using site (no regulations currently prohibit these activities on this site).

Lousana (67): seismic program restricted to existing access road with no cutting allowed.

Redwater (69): six military exercises held on site.

North Bruderheim (71): permission for military exercise denied.

Therien Lake (72): proposed seismic program restricted to existing cutlines (no widening and no surface blading); approval given for clearing of trails (max. width of 40 feet, no breaking, no seeding) to improve cattle distribution (to reduce impact on wetlands and shoreline).

Kootenay Plains ER (77): boundary changes proposed, public review required.

Vermilion Lake (91): grazing lease voluntarily not renewed.

Cow Lake (117): Fish and Wildlife has proposed construction of weir at outlet of Cow Lake to stabilize water levels, improve habitat for overwintering fish; public open house held in Rocky Mountain House to review proposal; environmental evaluation completed, although some concerns remain.

Chedderville (130): grazing lease (unimproved grazing) renewed for 10 years.

Easyford (139): seismic program restricted to handstringing geophones, no cutting of vegetation (except minor delimbing of trees).

Wagner (142): Alberta Transportation and Utilities held open house to review service road options along Highway 16X; five alternative routes presented, one of which would require additional right-of-way on the natural area.

Upper Mann Lake (176): approximately one section of land recommended for addition to site area.

Gadsby Lake (211): 3D seismic program rejected.

Sherwood Park (212): Advisory Committee reviewed draft interpretive plan; public open house held to review plan.

Butcher Creek (269): renewal of consultative notation for sand and gravel extraction rejected.

Lloyd Creek (270): proposed seismic program rejected.

North Saskatchewan (292): application for installation of pipeline on land adjacent to natural area.

Bear River (328): wellsite and access road approved subject to using existing access, minimizing disturbance (additional disturbance totals 1.106 ha).

Easyford Creek (338): proposed seismic program restricted to use on 1 m handcut lines and handstringing of geophones.

Wahstao (360): proposed seismic program restricted to 1 m handcut lines, handstringing of geophones, replacing slash onto lines and no vehicles.

Mount Butte (378): proposed seismic program restricted to use of existing cutlines, no new cutting.

Bear Lake (388): easement approved for existing power line with condition that there be no spraying to control vegetation.

Landslide Lake (389): addition of lands recommended.

Spruce Island Lake (396): Municipal District plans to realign road to avoid natural area.

Paintearth Coulee (397): proposed seismic program restricted to no cutting, no vehicles on rough topography and handstringing of geophones through brush and across eroded slopes.

Canmore Flats (408): public open house held to review concept design for interpretive centre and facilities.

Milk River (412): monitoring priorities established for 1993; application for research on small mammals reviewed.

Smithfield (415): proposed seismic program rejected.

Saskatoon Mountain (420): Saskatoon Mountain Economic Development Association has initiated a development concept plan for site to include day-use, interpretive trails and centre and a campground in vicinity of decommissioned radar site.

Pine Sands (432): recommendation to add lands to site.

Edson West (452): Alberta Transportation and Utilities applied for renewal of provisional roadway; alternatives that would lessen impact on natural area suggested.

Aurora (466): proposed seismic line to stop at north side of natural area.

O'Chiese (468): proposed seismic line reoriented to avoid natural area; logging planned in vicinity of natural area during 1994/95.

North Buck Lake (474): proposed seismic program restricted to existing lines, handcut lines, with 150 m lake buffer maintained and slash placed back on lines.

Rocky Rapids (494): Proposed seismic program restricted to use of existing road, pipeline and cutlines with no new cutting.

Prairie Creek Clearwater (495): proposed seismic program restricted to use of existing cutlines and no widening of lines.

Boivin (509): proposed seismic restricted to handstringing of geophones across peatland, no vehicles and no cutting of vegetation.

Wabamun Lake (512): osprey nesting pole installed.

Pouce Coupe Cave (513): proposed seismic program restricted to use of existing cutlines.

Keg River (553): new site nominated and recommended for reservation as natural area.

West Bow Flats (554): new site nominated and recommended for reservation as natural area.

Bow Valley (555): new site nominated and recommended for reservation as natural area.

Amisk Valley (P216): two pipelines, two wellsites and access road on perimeter of site of interest approved; draft significant features report received.

Return Address:
Natural and Protected Areas Program
4th floor, 9915 - 108 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2C9

Plan Now for a Summer Field Trip

Summer will be here sooner than you think. Start planning now for a special hiking or sightseeing adventure throughout the province.

Backpacking trip to the headwaters of the Cardinal River

Join in on an adventure to discover and inventory the rare plants of this mountain oasis. Many rare plants and unique periglacial features can be found in the headwaters, an area nestled between Jasper National Park and the Cardinal Divide (Tripoli and Cheviot Mountains).

When:
Thursday, July 29 - Monday, August 2, 1993

Where:
Meet Thursday evening at Whitehorse campground south of Cadomin (south of Hinton and Edson - Highway 16). Friday, the group will hike up the Cardinal River on an established trail and set up a basecamp. The total distance to the alpine waterfall where the river begins is 18 km. Saturday and Sunday will be spent exploring the area, including a pass into Jasper National Park. The group will hike out on Monday.

For more information, please contact:
Elisabeth Beaubien
4123-122 Street,
Edmonton, Alberta
T6J 1Z1
Work: 987-3054 Home: 438-1462

Ram Mountain field trip

Come and enjoy the beautiful scenic alpine meadows of Ram Mountain. This field trip is sponsored by the Alberta Forest Service and will feature a hike of moderate difficulty up to the meadows. Keep a look out because bighorn sheep are likely to be spotted!

When:
Meet 9 a.m. Saturday, July 10, 1993 and 9 a.m. Sunday, July 11, 1993.

Where:
Strachan Forest Recreation Area, about 22 km southwest of Rocky Mountain House on Secondary Road 752.

For further information, please contact:
Darrell Smith,
Rocky Mountain House
Phone: 845-8250
or
Lorna Allen
Edmonton
Phone: 427-5209

A wildflower hunt at Grande Prairie

Grande Prairie straddles two natural regions - the Peace River Parkland and the Boreal Mixedwood Forest. Several orchid species occur in the Grande Prairie area along with acres of western wood lilies which flower in June.

When: June 12 -June 13, 1993.

If you are interested in joining, please contact:
Joan Snyder, Northern Director,
Alberta Native Plant Council
Work: 539-2846 Home: 532-0709
or
Rick Scott
Work: 539-2953 Home: 532-2764

Lac La Biche field trip

The Alberta Native Plant Council offers this exciting field trip to Lac La Biche. The lake is only 200 km from Edmonton and offers an unusually diverse set of habitats. Sir Winston Churchill Park is full of large balsam fir, vines and creepers, while Jackson Lake Trail features Round-Leaved Bog Orchids in a mixed wood boreal forest and black spruce bog setting. The field trip will also explore unique sites including Lac La Biche Mission and Black Fox Island, a newly designated natural area.

When: June 18 - 20, 1993

For more information, please contact:
Tom Maccagno
Home: 623-2447
or
Carla Zelmer
Home: 436-0994 Work: 492-0083

Alberta
FORESTRY, LANDS AND WILDLIFE
Public Lands

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